

## **Completed VLCF Grants**

**October 27, 2021**

The following three VLCF grants have successfully closed since the June 10, 2021 VLCF Board meeting. One of the grants is from restricted funds for the Dominion Surry-Skiffes Creek grant round.

### **1. American Battlefield Trust – Cedar Run Tract at the Cedar Mountain Battlefield (FY2020)**

The American Battlefield Trust utilized a VLCF grant to preserve the 86-acre Cedar Run Tract at the Cedar Mountain Battlefield in Culpeper County. This project protects the rural character of the Cedar Mountain Battlefield (a Priority I.2, Class B battlefield), scenic James Madison Highway, and associated farmland, all of which are prioritized in ConserveVirginia's Cultural & Historic Preservation, Agriculture & Forestry, and Scenic Preservation categories. In addition, the project preserves 52 acres of open and agricultural fields, 34 acres of forest lands, 2,600 feet of streams (including frontage on Cedar Run), over two acres of wetlands, and a half-acre pond. The Trust recorded an open-space easement on the property held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources, and will work cooperatively with the Friends of Cedar Mountain to steward the property.

**Grant Award:** \$412,500. **Payment Amount:** \$412,500. **Match:** \$441,005.

### **2. The Nature Conservancy – Piney Grove Vernal Pools Project (FY2020)**

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) acquired 330 acres in Sussex County utilizing a VLCF grant and placed a DCR Natural Heritage Deed of Dedication over the property. The project includes preservation of an additional 116 acres of adjacent TNC-owned land. Together, the Piney Grove Sandhills Natural Area Preserve is one of the largest blocks of fire-maintained southern pine savanna in Virginia, which supports one of just two breeding populations of the federally endangered Red-cockaded woodpecker in the state. TNC, DCR, and other state conservation agency partners will restore pine savanna habitat to facilitate growth of the woodpecker population and ensure protection of four vernal pools that support populations of several state rare amphibian species. Establishing a DCR Natural Heritage presence at the site will facilitate more comprehensive and collaborative management of heritage trust resources among TNC and other state agency partners in the nearly 10,000-acre Piney Grove/Big Woods conservation area. ConserveVirginia categories include: Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity, Floodplains and Flooding Resilience, and Protected Landscapes Resilience.

**Grant Award:** \$367,000. **Payment Amount:** \$367,000. **Match:** \$436,705.

### **3. American Battlefield Trust – Colonial Williamsburg Tract at Williamsburg Battlefield (Dominion Surry-Skiffes Creek)**

A VLCF restricted-funds grant helped the American Battlefield Trust purchase the fee-simple acquisition of the 28-acre Colonial Williamsburg Tract, located in the City of Williamsburg and James City County. The property is within the core area of 1862 Battle of Williamsburg and is permanently protected under an open-space easement held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources. The Trust will provide an additional public access point and install interpretive signage on the property related to the battle and the importance of protecting natural and cultural resources

within the James River Watershed. The property is within the Cultural and Historic layer of ConserveVirginia.

**Grant Award:** \$100,000. **Payment Amount:** \$100,000. **Match:** \$2,639,138.

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### **Summary of Open VLCF Grants**

There are currently 13 open grants from the FY20 VLCF grant round. Five have closed and one was previously withdrawn. The remaining projects are moving forward and most are expected to close by the end of 2021.

There are eleven open grants from the first FY21 grant round. Twelve grants were awarded, but one was withdrawn. None of these grants, issued in February 2021, have closed yet.

All of the 22 grants from the FY21 Round II grant round awarded in June are open and active.